TS-M68- *269*

2 1 JUN 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Support Services Staff, DDS

FROM : Chief, Telecommunications Staff, OC

SUBJECT : Proposed Addendum to the USA Standard Code for Information Interchange, X3.4-1967

REFERENCE : NBS Memorandum dated May 23, 1968

1. The Office of Communications recommends that the Agency concur in that portion of the Addendum proposing an addition to Section 3, X3.4-1967.

2. That portion of the Addendum proposing an optional end-of-line Control Character could provide the impetus for further incompatibilities between ADP and Communications equipments. The Carriage Return (CR), Line Feed (LF) code is the accepted end-of-line standard for Federal Government teletype relay and terminal operations. Evolutionary adoption of the New Line (NL) character would take years and there is no apparent benefit to be derived from the NL function that is not inherent in the CR-LF sequence.

3. We recommend the retention of the Control Characters LF and CR, as defined in Section 5, X3.4-1967, as the standard end-of-line control. Machine devices utilizing a single end-of-line control character should have that control associated, as the expository remarks imply, with the LF character. The CR-LF sequence would then be used as the end-of-line code common to both modes, and it could be used advantageously without defining the single control character as an optional standard.

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